(c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in affirmative, what are the names of the anti-India rebel leaders who attended the meeting;

(d) what measures the Government of India have taken to meet the new front which Pakistan has opened to foment trouble in north-eastern India with the active support of the Bangladesh Government; and

(e) whether India has protested to the Bangladesh Government against such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (c) A news report to this effect, which mentioned Bijoy Kumar Hrangkhawal and three associates of the Tripura National Volunteers, as having been present at such a meeting, was published in the press at the end of January, 1986.

No confirmation of this, however is available with the Government. Bangladesh has denied the existence of any camps of Tripura National Volunteers in the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

(d) and (c) Do not arise in view of to (c) above.

Talks with US regarding plight of Tamils in Sri Lanka

1768. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been any discussions by India with the United States Administration about the plight of Tamils in Sri Lanka; and

(b) if so, what was the reaction of the US administration in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes Sir. During talks with the US Administration, the question of the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka has been discussed. The US side was apprised of the extensive time and effort being developed by the Indian Government in trying to assist both sides in reaching a political settlement to the ethnic problem. The US Administration has also been informed that Government was however disappointed at the Sri Lankan authorities approach in seeking a military solution.

(b) US Gov. indicated that it supported India's efforts and approach to have a political dialogue leading to a negotiated settlement.

Jelly fish clogging at MAPP

1769. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any alternatives have been found to the distant screening against Jelly fish clogging at MAPP; and

(b) whether any viable solution to the problem of viration has been suggested by B.H.E.L. or G.E;C?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) No, Sir. The present arrangement, to prevent jelly fish clogging the screens, is working satisfactorily.

(b) The modification suggested by BHEL have been implemented which has resulted in a reduction of the vibration level.

Immunity of UNICEF from civil litigation

1770. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state whe-